

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 9, with the following amended paragraph.

SMM is a special mode for handling system wide functions and is intended for use only ~~be~~ by system firmware, and not by an OS or an application. When SMM is invoked through a System Management Interrupt (SMI), the processor saves the current state of the processor and switches to a separate operating environment contained in System Management Random Access Memory (SMRAM). While in SMM, the processor executes SMI handler code to perform operations. When the SMI handler has completed its operations, it executes a resume instruction. This instruction causes the processor to reload the saved state of the processor, switch back to protected or real mode, and resume executing the interrupted application or OS tasks.